



NEW: **POW SMITH, INDIAN LAWMAN**



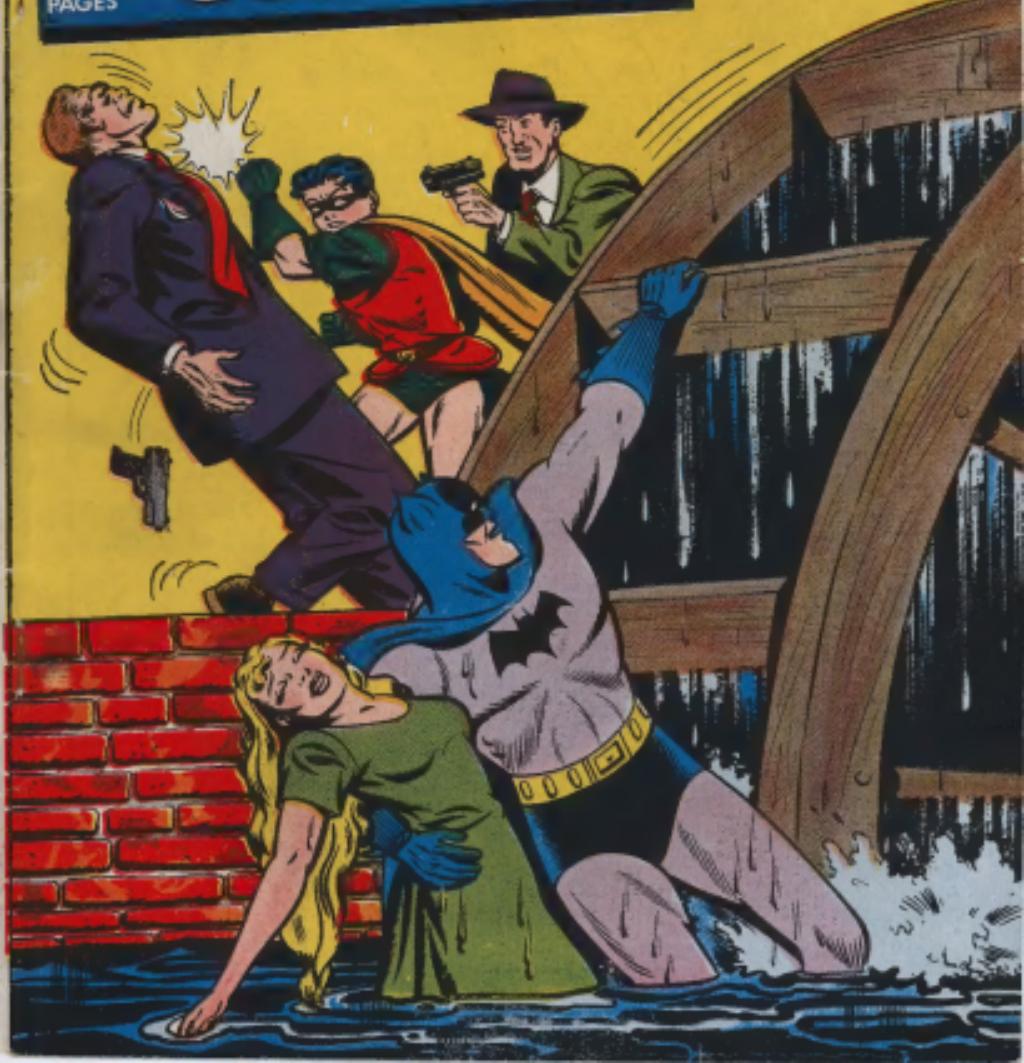
NO.154 DEC.

Detective COMICS

52 PAGES

Another
ACTION-PACKED
ADVENTURE
WITH
BATMAN
and **ROBIN!**

10¢



JIMMY'S BIGGEST CHRISTMAS (THANKS TO DAD)

MOTHER, JIMMY AND I ARE GOING CHRISTMAS SHOPPING. I'LL TRY TO FIND OUT WHAT KIND OF A BICYCLE HE WANTS. BE CAREFUL NOT TO GIVE OUR SURPRISE AWAY.

BE
WAREFUL
IT TO GIVE
SURPRISE
WAY.

OH, DAD, LET'S GO IN AND
SEE THE BICYCLES!

OKAY,
SON.

LOOK AT THAT
BICYCLE. IT
SURE IS A
BEAUTY!

THAT'S
A NEW
ROADMASTER.
IT'S BUILT JUST
LIKE YOUR
CAR!

SEE, DAD, THE STOPLIGHT WORKS OFF THE BRAKE, AND IT HAS A POWERFUL SEARCH BEAM HEADLIGHT. THOSE CHROME GOTHIC FENDERS ARE LIKE FENDERS ON 1950 CARS!

THERE WAS

NEVER A BICYCLE LIKE
THIS WHEN I WAS A KID!
IMAGINE A SHOCKMASTER
FORK!

A black and white comic strip panel. In the center, a man in a dark suit and tie stands with his hands on his hips, looking towards the right. To his left is a building with a large sign that reads 'BICYCLE STORE' above a drawing of a bicycle. To the right of the man, a speech bubble contains the text 'OKAY SON!'. In the foreground, the front half of a light-colored car is visible, angled towards the left. The background shows a simple, stylized cityscape with buildings and a road.

XMAS
MORNING

MERRY
CHRISTMAS,
JIMMY!

ASK FOR ONE
FOR CHRISTMAS

SEND FOR
FREE
BOOKLET

HOT DOG!
A ROADMASTER!
WHAT A CHRISTMAS!
THANKS MOTHER
AND DAD! I'M THE
LUCKIEST GUY
IN THE WORLD!



Roadmaster
AMERICA'S FINEST BICYCLE

BATMAN

WITH
ROBIN
-THE BOY WONDER-

A THRILLING EPISODE OF HISTORY WAS THE FAMOUS UNDERGROUND RAILROAD THAT LONG AGO SMUGGLED SLAVES TO LIBERTY! EVEN MORE STARTLING ARE THE EVENTS THAT TAKE PLACE WHEN THE UNDERGROUND RAILROAD IS REVIVED IN THE PRESENT DAY-- BUT THIS TIME TO CARRY ESCAPED, VICIOUS CONVICTS TO FREEDOM! FOR SO CUNNING ARE THE ENGINEERS OF THIS TRAIN OF ESCAPES, THAT BATMAN AND ROBIN MUST DARE MILE-A-MINUTE DANGER TO DERAIL THE ...

"UNDERGROUND RAILROAD OF CRIME!"



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THE BROODING MID-NIGHT SILENCE OF STATE PRISON IS SUDDENLY SHATTERED, AS WHISTLES SCREAM AND SEARCHLIGHTS FLARE!

THERE HE GOES!

HE'S JUMPING INTO THE RIVER!

THE RAPIDS OUT THERE WILL FINISH HIM...

THEY DIDN'T FINISH THE OTHERS, DID THEY?

AND LATER...

NO SIGN OF GLOOMNEY'S BODY, WARDEN!

THAT MEANS HE'S ESCAPED, TOO! THE SIXTH NOTORIOUS CONVICT TO GET AWAY, AND THEY ALL DISAPPEAR LIKE MAGIC! I NEED HELP TO STOP THIS... REAL HELP!

THAT NIGHT, NEAR GOTHAM CITY, BRUCE WAYNE AND DICK GRAYSON SEE THE SIGNAL IN THE SKY THAT IS THEIR CALL TO ACTION!

THE BAT-SIGNAL! THE COMMISSIONER NEEDS BATMAN AND ROBIN FAST!

AND THAT MEANS US!

A SWIFT CHANGE OF COSTUME, AND SOON AT POLICE HEADQUARTERS TWO FAMED CRIME-CRUSHERS ANSWER THE CALL!

HERE THEY ARE... WARDEN... BATMAN AND ROBIN!

I'M ASKING FOR YOUR HELP BECAUSE I'M DESPERATE ABOUT WHAT'S GOING ON AT STATE PRISON!

WHEN THE SINISTER TALE OF UNCANNY ESCAPES HAS BEEN TOLD...

NOT ONE OF THESE ESCAPED CONVICTS HAS BEEN CAUGHT! WE'RE CONVINCED THEY'RE GETTING OUT OF THE COUNTRY SOMEHOW!

LET ME SEE THE CASE-HISTORIES OF THE ESCAPED CRIMINALS!





SOON...

EVERY ONE OF THESE ESCAPED CROOKS HAD UNRECOVERED LOOT HIDDEN SOMEWHERE! THAT SUGGESTS THAT THEY'RE BUYING THEIR WAY TO FREEDOM!

YOU MEAN THAT SOME MASTER-CROOKS HAVE SET UP AN ESCAPE SYNDICATE? IT SOUNDS IMPOSSIBLE!

BUT HOW COULD SUCH A SYNDICATE SMUGGLE MEN THROUGH ALL THE POLICE DRAGNETS AND BARRIERS?

IN THE OLD DAYS OF SLAVERY, SLAVES WERE SMUGGLED TO FREE TERRITORY BY BEING SECRETLY MOVED FROM ONE "STATION" OR HIDING-PLACE TO ANOTHER. IT WAS CALLED THE UNDERGROUND RAILROAD.



BUT IF SUCH AN UNDERGROUND RAILROAD OF CRIME IS OPERATING NOW, HOW CAN WE BREAK IT UP?



IN A LOCKED ROOM, THE BATMAN'S MASTERY OF MAKE-UP ACHIEVES A MIRACLE OF DISGUISE!

YOU'RE AN EXACT DOUBLE OF JIM MILLAN NOW, BATMAN!

REMEMBER, ROBIN, THE METHOD OF COMMUNICATION WE ARRANGED! I CAN'T TAKE MY BELT-RADIO WITH ME!



BY WORKING FROM INSIDE! YOU HAVE HERE THE BANK ROBBER WE CAUGHT, JIM MILLAN. HE'S SENTENCED TO GO TO STATE PRISON TOMORROW...

MILLAN'S LOOT IS STILL HIDDEN SOMEWHERE... HE WOULDN'T TELL WHERE. YOU HOLD MILLAN HERE AND I'LL GO TO STATE PRISON IN DISGUISE, AS HIM!



NEXT DAY, THE FALSE JIM MILLAN ENTERS THE CRIM FORTRESS OF STATE PRISON!

THAT'S WHY I COULDN'T WEAR MY UTILITY BELT!

NO METAL HIDDEN ON HIM OR THE METAL-DETECTOR WOULD GIVE THE ALARM!





"JIM MILLAN," NOW CONVICT 104777, WORKS IN THE PRISON LAUNDRY UNTIL . . .

MILLAN, YOU HAVE A VISITOR!

AH! I THOUGHT THE ESCAPE-SYNDICATE WOULD CONTACT ME!

BUT IN THE VISITORS' ROOM, A SURPRISE! HELLO, JIM DARLING! I REMEMBER THIS GIRL FROM HER PICTURE IN MILLAN'S FILE--SHE'S MARY HOLMES, HIS SWEETHEART! AND SHE THINKS I'M MILLAN!

JIM, YOUR ATTORNEY SAYS THAT IF YOU GIVE UP THE STOLEN BANK-MONEY YOU HID, IT'LL SHORTEN YOUR TERM AND MAKE YOU ELIGIBLE FOR A PAROLE! WON'T YOU DO IT?

NO! NOBODY KNOWS WHERE THAT MONEY IS BUT ME, AND I'M NOT TELLING!

BUT JIM, I KNOW WHERE IT IS! DON'T YOU REMEMBER THAT YOU TOLD ME?

OUCH! I MADE A SLIP THERE! SURE, I MEANT NOBODY BUT US TWO KNOW! AND WE'LL HAVE IT FOR OURSELVES WHEN I GET OUT!

SHE LOOKED AT ME ODDLY-- SHE MAY SUSPECT I'M NOT MILLAN! I'D BETTER NOTIFY ROBIN QUICKLY, BY THE METHOD WE ARRANGED!

BACK IN THE PRISON LAUNDRY, BATMAN TURNS A STEAM-EXHAUST VALVE RAPIDLY ON AND OFF TO...

BATMAN'S SIGNAL-CODE OF STEAM PUFFS! WA-TOM M-I-L-L-A-N'S G-I-R-L! M-A-Y S-U-S-P-E-C-T I-M I-M-P-E-R-S-O-N-A-T-O-R!







ONCE THROUGH THE CANAL, AN INNOCENT-LOOKING DUCK FORGES ONWARD, UNTIL NEAR GOTHAM CITY IT DESERTS THE WATER FOR THE LAND!



THROUGH THIS STORM-DRAIN, THE WAY LEADS TO...

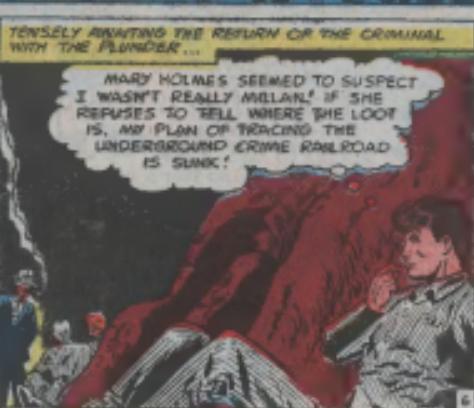
THIS IS THE STATION OF THE ABANDONED OLD SUBWAY LINES -- STATION TWO ON THE CRIME RAILROAD!

IT'S PAY IN ADVANCE, NOW! TELL WHERE YOUR LOOT IS HIDDEN, AND CHUBBY WILL BRING IT HERE SO YOU CAN PAY US!



TENSELY AWAITING THE RETURN OF THE CRIMINAL WITH THE PLUNDER...

MARY HOLMES SEEMED TO SUSPECT I WASN'T REALLY MILLAN! IF SHE REFUSES TO TELL WHERE THE LOOT IS, MY PLAN OF TRACING THE UNDERGROUND CRIME RAILROAD IS SUNK!



DETECTIVE COMICS

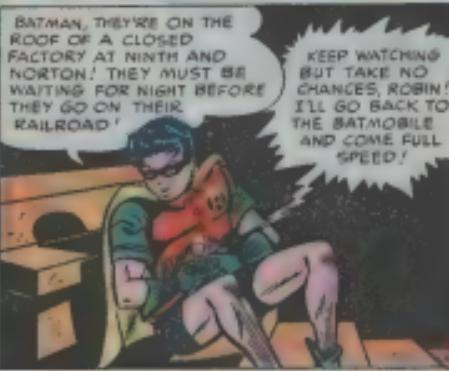




SO TWO MASTER MANNHUNTERS REVIEW THE SEARCH FOR THE MYSTERIOUS CRIME RAILROAD.

THEY LEFT NO TRACKS! HOW CAN WE TELL WHICH TUNNEL THEY TOOK?



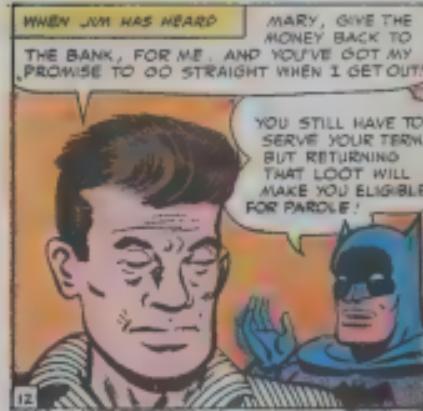
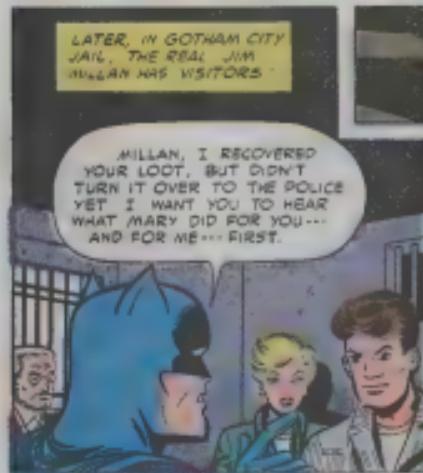
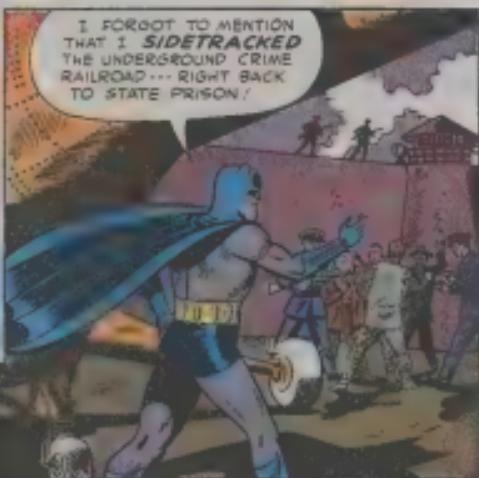




DETECTIVE COMICS



DETECTIVE COMICS



WOW! KIDS!

IM GIVING AWAY 10,000 OFFICIAL BAZOOKA SCOUTING KNIVES!



TO THE FIRST 10,000 BOYS & GIRLS TO SEND IN 100 PENNY BAZOOKA WRAPPERS!

YOU CAN WIN my official scouting knife! Just follow these simple rules!

1. Start today to save the wrappers from delicious PENNY BAZOOKA Bubble Gum. All BAZOOKA wrappers are good for this KNIFE OFFER.

2. When you have collected one hundred of these red, white and blue silver foil wrappers, put them in an envelope, with your name and address on a slip of paper inside.

3. Mail to BAZOOKA, Dept. R, Box 100, Brooklyn 33, N. Y. The first 10,000 entries received in this prize award will win my BAZOOKA Scouting Knife. Entries judged by the date and hour of the postmark on your letter to give everybody, everywhere the same chance. Duplicate prizes in case of ties.

4. Entries must be postmarked not later than midnight, December 15, 1949, to qualify.

5. Offer open to all residents of the U. S., its territories and possessions, except employees, and their families, of Topps Chewing Gum and its advertising agency.



2 BIG CHEWS 1¢

Made by the makers of Topps Chewing Gum



PUBLIC BUILDINGS HAVE BEEN BLOWN TO BITS. POLICE SUSPECT ENEMY AGENTS. NOW PRIVATE DETECTIVE SAM SPADE AND EPPIE, HIS SECRETARY, VISIT THE STREET WHERE POLICE HAVE LOST THEIR SUSPECT.

THEY'VE LOST HIM SOMEWHERE ON THIS STREET. EPPIE JETS LOOK AROUND!



WILDBOOT CREAM-OIL BOTTLE? IT'S NEVER BEEN OPENED. COME ON — SIDE DOOR.



CALL THE COPS. EPPIE IS SEEING RED!

YOU MEAN MEADS. SAM, I'M ON MY WAY.



I STILL DON'T KNOW HOW YOU KNOW THAT SHOP WAS PHONY, SAM.

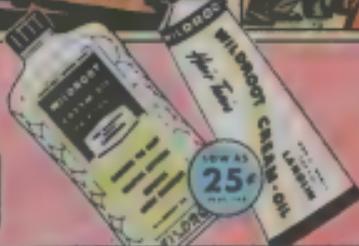
SIMPLY, SWEETHEART! WILDBOOT CREAM-OIL IS THE MOST POPULAR HAIR TONIC IN THE COUNTRY. FOR GROOMING HAIR, IN REAL BARBERSHOPS, A BOTTLE IS ALWAYS OPEN, READY TO USE.

SAM SPADE ASKS:

CAN YOUR SCALP PASS THE FINGERNAIL TEST?



IF YOU FIND SIGNS OF DRYNESS AND DROOP, USE WILDBOOT CREAM-OIL. HAIR TONIC. NON-ALCOHOLIC. CONTAINS SOOTHING LINCOLN.



EPPIE SPADE:

WHAT GIRLS USE WILDBOOT CREAM-OIL FOR QUICK GROOMING AND FOR RELIEVING DRYNESS BETWEEN PERMANENTS. MOTHERS FIND IT WONDERFUL FOR TREATING CHILDREN'S HAIR.



Impossible-- BUT TRUE!

THIS IS AN IMITATION OF THE AGRA RUBY--AN ALMOST WORTHLESS STONE! YET MEN SOUGHT IT--AND THOSE WHO GOT IT, DIED? WHY, THEN, DID THEY SEEK IT?

IT WAS SAID THAT ANYONE WHO POSSESSED THE SHIMMERING RUBY WOULD ENCOUNTER TRAGEDY! BUT TO ROY RAYMOND, PRODUCER OF THE ODDITY-FILLED "IMPOSSIBLE BUT TRUE" TELEVISION SHOW, THE LEGEND WAS MORE SUPERSTITION--SOMETHING THAT COULDN'T HAPPEN! YET--TWO MEN DIED... TWO MEN WHO HELD THE RUBY WHEN THE END CAME!--AND DOUBTFUL ROY RAYMOND WITNESSED BOTH DEATHS! YET THERE WAS AN ANSWER--A SOLUTION! MAYBE YOU'LL GUESS THE SECRET YOURSELF, AS THE MAN OF A THOUSAND FACTS DISCOVERED WHEN HE SET OUT TO SOLVE... "THE RIDDLE OF THE RUBY!"

ONCE AGAIN ROY RAYMOND'S FASCINATING TELEVISION SHOW "IMPOSSIBLE -- BUT TRUE!" IS ON THE AIR TO TELECAST THE WORLD'S MOST INCREDIBLE CURIOSITIES

THIS IS KAREN COLBY, MR. RAYMOND'S ASSISTANT! I AM TAKING HIS PLACE TONIGHT BECAUSE HE IS SOMEWHERE IN EUROPE, GATHERING MORE IMPOSSIBLE -- BUT TRUE FACTS TO BE SHOWN ON THIS PROGRAM...



AT THIS VERY MOMENT, FAR ACROSS THE WORLD, THE HUNTER OF CURIOSITIES STANDS IN A HUGE LENINGRAD CHURCH...

THIS IS ROY RAYMOND AGAIN -- I AM NOW IN ST. ISAAC'S CATHEDRAL IN LENINGRAD! I AM FILMING THE LARGEST SINGLE STONES THE HAND OF MAN HAS EVER CUT, ROUNDED AND POLISHED...



AFTER LEAVING LENINGRAD, THE MAN OF TEN THOUSAND FACTS HEADS WESTWARD BY CARRIAGE, BOAT AND PLANE...



...AND ALWAYS HIS CAMERA HURTS CEASELESSLY, RECORDING COLORFUL AND INCREDIBLE SCENES TO BE USED IN A TELEVISION STUDIO THOUSANDS OF MILES AWAY!...

WITH HIM, HE HAS A PORTABLE RECORDING SET AND A MOVIE CAMERA! I DON'T KNOW JUST WHERE HE IS, BUT THE AMAZING THINGS HE SEES AND RECORDS WILL BE BROUGHT BACK HERE --- AND THEN TELECAST RIGHT INTO YOUR LIVING ROOMS...



THESE GIGANTIC, ROSE-COLORED COLUMNS ARE 56 FEET HIGH AND ARE SIX AND ONE-HALF FEET IN DIAMETER! AND REMEMBER --- EVERY SQUARE INCH OF THEIR SURFACE WAS CUT AND POLISHED BY HAND! IMPOSSIBLE BUT TRUE!



FINALLY, A STOP IN WALES...

I AM NOW REACHING THE SUMMIT OF A MOUNTAIN CALLED CADER-IDRIS! EVEN AT THIS DISTANCE, YOU CAN SEE THE STRANGE CARVING AT THE TOP WHICH RESEMBLES A GIGANTIC COUCH!...



THIS ODD, COUCH-LIKE EXCAVATION WAS SUPPOSED TO HAVE BEEN THE RESTING PLACE OF A LEGENDARY GIANT!... IT IS AN AMAZING PHENOMENON, FOR NATURE CARVED IT FROM SOLID ROCK!



THIS IS ONE OF THE GREAT MYSTERIES OF HISTORY! THE HORIZONTAL STONES HIGH AT THE TOP WEIGH TONS -- YET THEY WERE PLACED THERE CENTURIES AGO -- BEFORE DERRICKS WERE EVER INVENTED! HOW DID THEY GET THERE? IMPOSSIBLE -- BUT TRUE!



EASY, THERE...
WHAT'S WRONG?

UH... THE RUBY...THE DEATH RUBY... IT GOT ME... IT GOT THE REST! THE THING'S A CURSE... UH...



ONE DAY LATER...

WHILE I'M IN ENGLAND,
I'LL GET PICTURES OF
ANCIENT STONEHENGE... HERE ON THE
HISTORIC CHALK PLAINS OF SALISBURY...



THE HUNT FOR CLOTHES ENDS IN LONDON -- ON A WET NIGHT, AND AS ROY RAYMOND LEAVES HIS HOTEL FOR THE AIRPORT HE HEARS PAIN CRIES...

HELP! HELP ME!... THOSE MOANS... SOMEONE IN TROUBLE!



HE'S DEAD! HMM -- I'VE HAD MUCH EXPERIENCE WITH GEMS IN MY TRAVELS! I HAVE QUITE A COLLECTION HOME, AND FROM WHAT I KNOW ABOUT RUBIES, I'D SAY THIS ONE IS AN IMITATION!

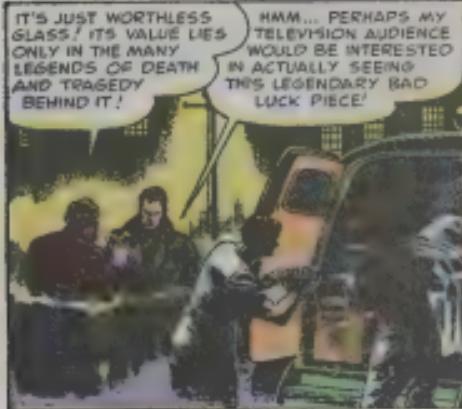


SUDDENLY, THE SOUND OF SIRENS -- AND OUT OF THE MISTS APPEARS AN AMBULANCE! FIGURES GET OUT AND...



I'M MORE THAN CERTAIN, HOWEVER, THAT THE RUBY IS AN IMITATION!

YES - I RECOGNIZE IT FROM PICTURES I'VE SEEN IN THE PAPERS! IT'S A COPY OF THE ANCIENT AGRA RUBY.. AND THERE IS SUPPOSED TO BE A CURSE ON ANYONE WHO OWNS IT!...



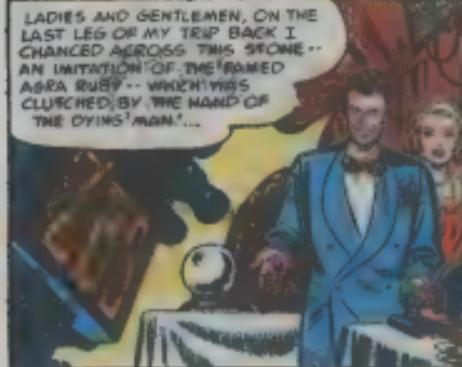
AFTERWARDS, AT THE AIRPORT CUSTOMS OFFICE...

YOU WERE RIGHT, MR. RAYMOND -- IT'S ONLY AN IMITATION! WE'VE CHECKED IT! YOU MAY PROCEED!

AN IMITATION, YES... BUT THE STORY BEHIND IT WILL INTEREST A LOT OF PEOPLE!



AND ON THE FOLLOWING FRIDAY "IMPOSSIBLE... BUT TRUE" AGAIN GOES BEFORE THE CAMERAS...



THIS RUBY IS SUPPOSED TO HAVE CAUSED MANY DEATHS, YET WE REFUSE TO BELIEVE IN SUPERSTITIONS OF THAT SORT! HOWEVER...



DETECTIVE COMICS



AS THE LAW BREAKS IN, THE CROOK WITH THE IMITATION GEM TRIES TO RUN OUT A BACK DOOR -- BUT TRIPS OVER A MAZE OF WIRES...



THERE IS A SHORT IN THE CIRCUIT -- THE LIGHTS GO OUT, THEN AFTER BRIEF MOMENTS FLASH ON AGAIN...





THEY STEP INTO A WAITING CAR, AND A MOTOR PURRS, GEARS GRIND, AND AS THE CAR SPEEDS FORWARD...

WE'RE GOING DOWNHILL - AND THERE'S SOMETHING WRONG! WHEN WE PASS THE BRIDGE, KAREN - OPEN THE DOOR AND... JUMP!

JUMP? WHY? WHAT'S WRONG, ROY?

BRAKES ARE GONE! GO AHEAD, LEAP!

YOU'RE STILL BOSS, BOSS! HERE GOES...



BRAKES GONE! COULD IT BE... THE RUBY? MAYBE I SHOULD'VE STUCK WITH ROY--

MEANWHILE, THE CAR - NOW A SPEEDING MISSILE OF DEATH - CONTINUES ITS DIZZY RACE DOWNHILL...

I CAN'T JUMP OUT NOW - WITHOUT ANYBODY BEHIND THE WHEEL, THIS BUGSY COULD KILL SOMEONE! GOT TO STICK WITH HER -- TAKE A CHANCE ON CRASH LANDING...



HERE GOES...

TWEET! HEY, YOU - WATCH IT!



DETECTIVE COMICS

ABRUPTLY...

... BRAKES WERE SHOT,
OFFICER! I POINTED IT AT
THE TREE AND THEN CLIMBED
TO THE BACK SEAT AND
LAY FLAT... AN OLD CRASH
ARTIST STUNT...



LATER, AT HIS HOME, WHICH RESEMBLES A
MUSEUM OF CURIOS....

... STRAIGHT TO THE GEM
ROOM... I CAN'T FIGURE IT!...
WHY WERE THEY AFTER
A FAKE GEM?...



USING SPECIAL INSTRUMENTS, RAYMOND
EXPERTLY STRIKES THE BLOOD-RED BAD
LUCK STONE, AND WHEN IT COMES APART...

GREAT CAESAR! THE PHONEY
RUBY WAS HOLLOW! AND
INSIDE ARE FLAWLESS ORIENTAL
PEARLS, STUCK IN A GUM TO
KEEP THEM FROM RATTING!



AS FOR YOU MR. MYSTERY RUBY... YOU
NEARLY GOT ME THAT TIME! BUT I'M
STILL NOT CONVINCED YOU'RE BAD LUCK!
I'M GOING TO FIND OUT WHAT MAKES
YOU TICK-- AND WHY CROOKS WENT
AFTER AN IMITATION GEM,



HE PLACES THE FANTASTIC FALSE GEM UNDER A
POWERFUL GLASS AND SEES WHAT THE NAKED
EYE WOULD NEVER DETECT...

YES... I SEE IT! AN ODD LINE
THROUGH THE RUBY--AS IF IT
HAS BEEN STUCK TOGETHER!
I'LL TRY BREAKING IT



QUICKLY, HE GOES INTO THE CRIME ROOM...

WHAT AN OAF I'VE BEEN! I NOW
KNOW THE SECRET OF THE RUBY!
I'VE BEEN MADE PART OF AN
ASTOUNDING PLOT... AND PERHAPS
THERE ARE ONLY MOMENTS LEFT--
BECAUSE NOW THEY'RE AFTER ME!



LATER, IN HIS LIBRARY... AND A VOICE SOUNDS FROM THE SHADOWS...

I SEE YOU SURVIVED THE WRECK AFTER WE DIS-CONNECTED YOUR BRAKES! BUT THAT DOESN'T MATTER-- HAND OVER THE RUBY, PLEASE! AT ONCE!

YOU--! THE "DOCTOR" I SAW IN LONDON THE NIGHT THE MAN DIED HAD THE RUBY...



HA, HA! HE WAS ONE OF MY MEN-- AND QUITE AN ACTOR, EH? AS FOR ME, I POSED AS A DOCTOR; I AM THE FAMOUS COUNT B, CLEVEREST OF ALL SMUGGLERS! ER-- THE RUBY...



WHEN I HEARD YOU WERE IN LONDON, I DEVISED THE WHOLE SCHEME OF THE BAD-LUCK RUBY, KNOWING YOUR CURIOSITY WOULD WIN YOU OVER-- AND THAT YOU WOULD BRING IT HERE TO THE STATES FOR ME!...



UNFORTUNATELY, MY MAN AT THE STUDIO WAS KILLED IN HIS BLUNDERING EFFORT TO ESCAPE-- WHICH CAN'T BE BLAMED ON THE RUBY! HA, HA! LET ME SHOW YOU WHAT YOU BROUGHT INTO THE COUNTRY-- SOMETHING MY MEN WOULD NEVER HAVE BEEN ABLE TO SNEAK PAST CUSTOMS... CLEVER, EH?



FOR THE SECOND TIME THE RUBY SPLITS OPEN... ONLY NOW...

EH? WHAT'S THIS? COUGH! COUGH! CHOKED-- GASP!

TEAR GAS! I PUT IT IN AND CEMENTED THE RUBY TOGETHER AGAIN! THE PEARLS TIPPED ME OFF TO THE WHOLE SCHEME!



LATER, WHEN KAREN ARRIVES WITH THE POLICE...

I SAW FROM THE WINDOW-- AND WENT FOR HELP! YOU WERE RIGHT-- THE RUBY WASN'T REALLY BAD LUCK!

BUT IT WAS!, FOR COUNT B, WHO WAS WANTED FOR SMUGGLING AND MURDER! YOU SEE, THE RUBY IS ACTUALLY RESPONSIBLE FOR THE FACT THAT HE WILL DIE IN THE CHAIR! QUITE IRONIC, EH?



Most Sensational Tom Mix Offer Ever!

SEND FOR THIS MAGIC
MINIATURE OF MY
OWN SIX-SHOOTER.
READ BELOW ABOUT
THE TRICKS IT DOES!

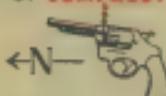


IT'S A BEAUTIFUL WATCH FOB,
BRACELET OR KEY CHAIN!



HIDDEN HOOK holds arrowhead on your belt above watch pocket. Fasten special clasp to wear around your wrist.

IT'S A NEW KIND
OF COMPASS!



Drop gun from chain and it
always points north. Find your
way at night, use it GLOW!

IT'S A SHRILL
SIGNAL WHISTLE!



HIDDEN WHISTLE in arrow-
head permits you to signal
friends, call for help.

ONE OF THE MOST POWERFUL
LITTLE MAGNETS YOU'VE EVER SEEN!



Makes pins, paper clips jump $\frac{1}{2}$ inch in air. Put small piece of metal
under paper - gun above - and it lifts paper and all! Holds heavy letter
openers by tiny metal. AMAZING MAGNETIC POWER!

TOM MIX
SUPER-MAGNETIC
COMPASS GUN
AND SIGNAL WHISTLE



It's really super! Be among the
first in your neighborhood to get
this perfect little model of Tom's
Six-Shooter - amaze your friends
with the tricks it will perform.

**YOURS
FOR ONLY 15¢**

Send me
Hot Ralston or
Instant Ralston
box top



DON'T DELAY—USE THIS COUPON!

TOM MIX, Box 88-C, St. Louis, Mo.

Enclosed are 15¢ cash and one Ralston box top for
Tom's Magnetic Compass Gun & Signal Whistle.

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____

If you don't have coupon with name and address on Ralston
box top mail with 15¢. Offer good only in U.S.A. and may
be withdrawn at any time.

Tune in **TOM MIX**

5:30-6:00 PM—Mon., Wed., Fri.
—Mutual Broadcasting System

THE GREEN ARROW and the Red Feather Kid

IN A PACKED AUDITORIUM, A THRILLED CROWD WATCHES THE GREEN ARROW, WORLD'S FERMIEST ARCHERY EXPERT, DISPLAY HIS WIZARDRY WITH THE BOW AND ARROW...



I'VE DISCARDED MY USUAL GREEN-FEATHERED ARROWS AND USED THESE RED-FEATHERED ONES FOR A SPECIAL REASON -- TO EMPHASIZE THE RED FEATHER, A SYMBOL OF SERVICE THROUGHOUT THE AGES... LIKE THIS ONE THE RED FEATHER KID WEARS IN HIS CAP...



"HIS RED FEATHER IDENTIFIES THE VARIOUS SERVICES WHICH RECEIVE SUPPORT THROUGH COMMUNITY CHEST CAMPAIGNS -- SERVICES FOR SCOUTS, GIRLS AND BOYS CLUBS, THE Y'S..."



"... SERVICES FOR YOUNGSTERS IN DAY NURSERIES, SETTLEMENT HOUSES AND FOSTER HOMES..."



"... HEALTH SERVICES IN HOSPITALS, CLINICS AND CONVALESCENT HOMES..."



THESE ARE ONLY SOME OF THE SERVICES YOU CONTRIBUTE TO WHEN YOU GIVE TO COMMUNITY CHEST CAMPAIGNS. SO GIVE GENEROUSLY.



YES, SCORE A BULL'S-EYE YOURSELF BY CONTRIBUTING TO THE RED FEATHER SERVICES. REMEMBER, IT'S "A FEATHER IN YOUR CAP" TO WEAR A RED FEATHER!

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ROBOTMAN



STRANGE THOUGHTS ARISE IN THE MIND OF ROBOTMAN, THE MAN OF METAL WITH THE HUMAN BRAIN... AND THEY CAUSE PLENTY OF TROUBLE BEFORE HE CAN CLEAR THEM OUT! FOR THE FIRST TIME IN HIS LIFE, THE MAN OF METAL CAN'T THINK STRAIGHT ... BECAUSE FOR THE FIRST TIME IN HIS LIFE HE BECOMES

PAUL DENNIS, ALIAS ROBOTMAN, HAS JUST STOPPED TO BUY A NEWSPAPER WHEN A STRANGE THOUGHT ENTERS HIS MIND...

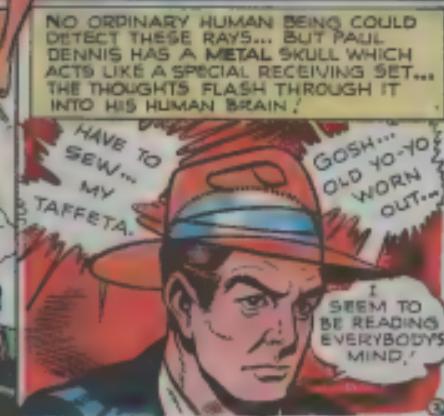
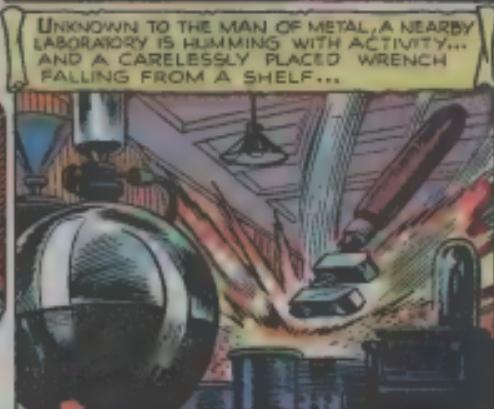
THANKS, MISTER.

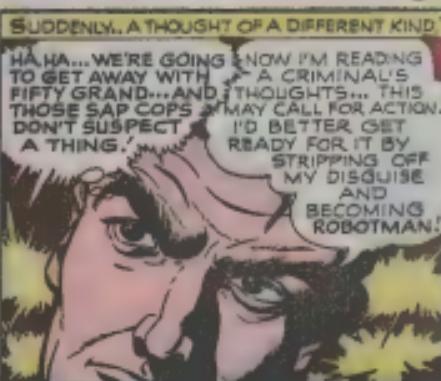
YOU'RE WELCOME!

OH, DEAR, I'LL HAVE TO SEW MY RED TAFFETA ON THE DRESS WITH RUFFLES TOMORROW MORNING.

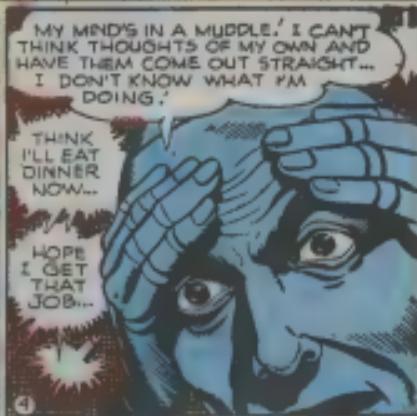
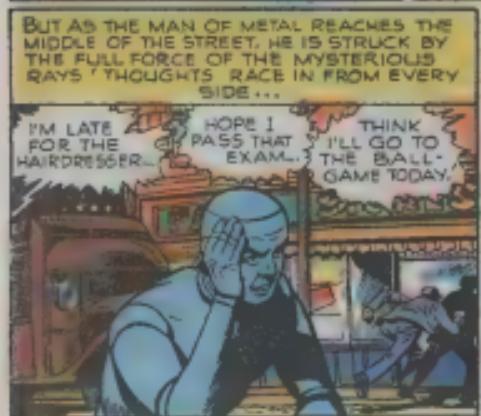
ROBOTMAN, MIND-READER

DETECTIVE COMICS





DETECTIVE COMICS





THROUGH THE MAZE OF THOUGHTS, ONE IDEA OF HIS OWN BECOMES CLEAR... AND ROBOTMAN STUMBLERS TOWARD A SPORTING GOODS STORE.

IF I CAN SHIELD MY HEAD, MAYBE I CAN ESCAPE ALL THOSE THOUGHTS.

SPO

PROTECTED

AH, THIS CORK-LINED HELMET DOES A GOOD JOB OF SHIELDING ME... NOW I CAN THINK AGAIN! HOPE IT ISN'T TOO LATE...



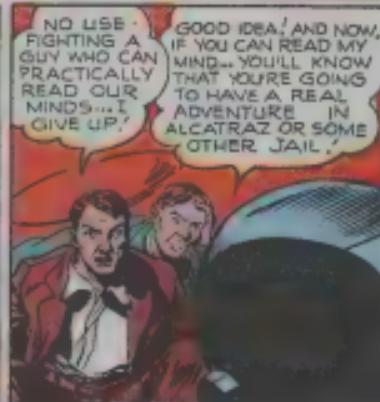
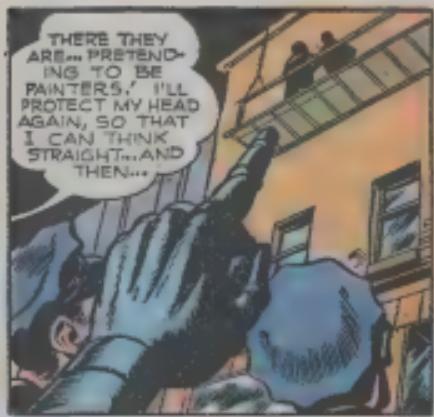
ONCE MORE, THOUGHTS OF ALL KINDS FOUND AT THE METAL MAN'S DEFENSELESS BRAIN!



BUT AS THE MAN OF METAL IS ON THE POINT OF GIVING UP...



DETECTIVE COMICS



The End

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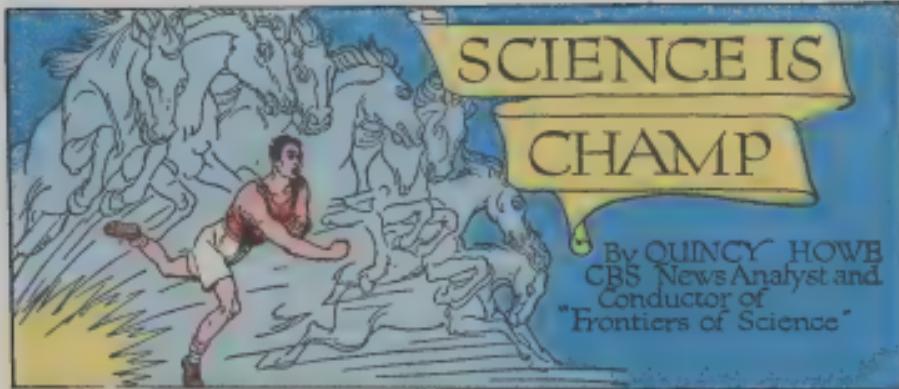
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IT wasn't all muscle and practice that hung up the new world's records and made new champions at the Olympic games in London last year. There was another factor, clear outside the faculties of the contender — but a mighty big help to him.

Science—not the science of skilled performance, but the physiologist's know-how in building athletic health, and the inventor's science in making new gadgets—these were what clipped off seconds from the Olympic records.

The athletes who participated in the 14th modern Olympiad were no better trained and no more determined than contenders at previous meets. But thanks to science, these latest teams had the benefit of different methods and equipment that made them superior to any that went before.

What has happened to make our track athletes shave about ten percent—and even more—off the records of 30 years ago? Partly, it's better general health. Mostly, though, it's the systematic development of the heart and lungs on which most track competition depends. Professor A. V. Hill of Uni-

versity College, London, has made a special study of the subject and he has found that the most successful track athletes can run up what he calls an abnormally large "oxygen debt."

Here's the way it works. Anyone engaged in violent exercise uses up more oxygen than he takes in. The average human being can absorb four litres of oxygen in a minute and expel ten litres of carbon dioxide. A person running at the slow marathon rate of ten miles an hour, can breathe in just enough oxygen to keep his system in balance. A sprinter's muscles need thirty times the normal supply of oxygen in the blood and all this of course adds to what Professor Hill calls the oxygen debt.

The performance of an athlete therefore depends on three things: his heart, his lungs, and his ability to draw upon the oxygen reserves in his system or to function without the full supply of oxygen. The trainers of athletes have only begun to discover how to develop the heart and lung power of their charges. Doctors themselves are still experimenting with the heart and lung power of outstanding runners.

In 30 years, the world's record for the one-mile run has been shaved from four minutes and twelve seconds to four minutes and four seconds. Today, there is speculation whether anyone will achieve the seemingly impossible record of four minutes flat. But not all scientists agree on what kind of physical effort the four-minute miler will have to put forth.

The great engineer Charles P. Steinmetz once estimated that it takes more than 22 men to perform one horse-power's worth of work in the course of a whole day. On the other hand, Dr. J. G. Lester of Emory University in Atlanta estimates that a man who runs a mile in four minutes flat will have to develop seven horse-power.

The point is that track athletes release almost super-human quantities of energy for a short space of time. The man who runs 100 yards in ten seconds will continue to breathe hard for almost an hour. He'll be thoroughly exhausted for two or three minutes. A working man, using a pick and shovel, uses only his arms and therefore uses up less energy, per minute, than a man walking upstairs.

But it's possible to shovel, after a fashion, all day. It's not possible for the average man to spend all day walking up stairs. The human frame just will not stand it. When it comes to breaking a world's record, it takes a great extra effort. A four minute and four seconds mile requires six horse-power; to shave off just four seconds requires a whole extra horse-power—and that's a lot.

Different trainers have applied dif-

ferent methods to athletes, but all these trainers depend more and more on the findings of medical science. Other branches of science also come into the picture in connection with the new-style equipment. At the Olympics, for instance, the races started with a remote control firing device which permitted all competitors to hear the crack of the pistol almost simultaneously. In some of the races, the starters were spread out so wide that those furthest from the starting gun lost one tenth of a second.

The London Olympics also used a new kind of camera which showed the judges a developed film within 90 seconds of the end of the race. No longer did the judges have to traipse off to a movie projection room and spend half an hour or more seeing motion pictures of a disputed event. The method is still being used. Now they can look at a single picture of the actual finish right away.

The pole vaulters try to leap over aluminum, non-sag bars which are raised with a special pulley-hoist. The hurdle bars are made of aluminum too.

And a mechanical leveler smooths off the broad jump pit and new devices are used to measure the exact distance of the jumps.

What's true of track is true of other sports. Physical capacity of all athletes is increasing. Bob Feller can pitch a baseball 98 miles an hour. Jimmy Thompson can drive a golf ball 135 miles an hour. Bill Tilden can serve a tennis ball 151 miles an hour. What will the figures be 30 years from now?



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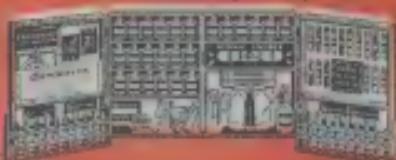


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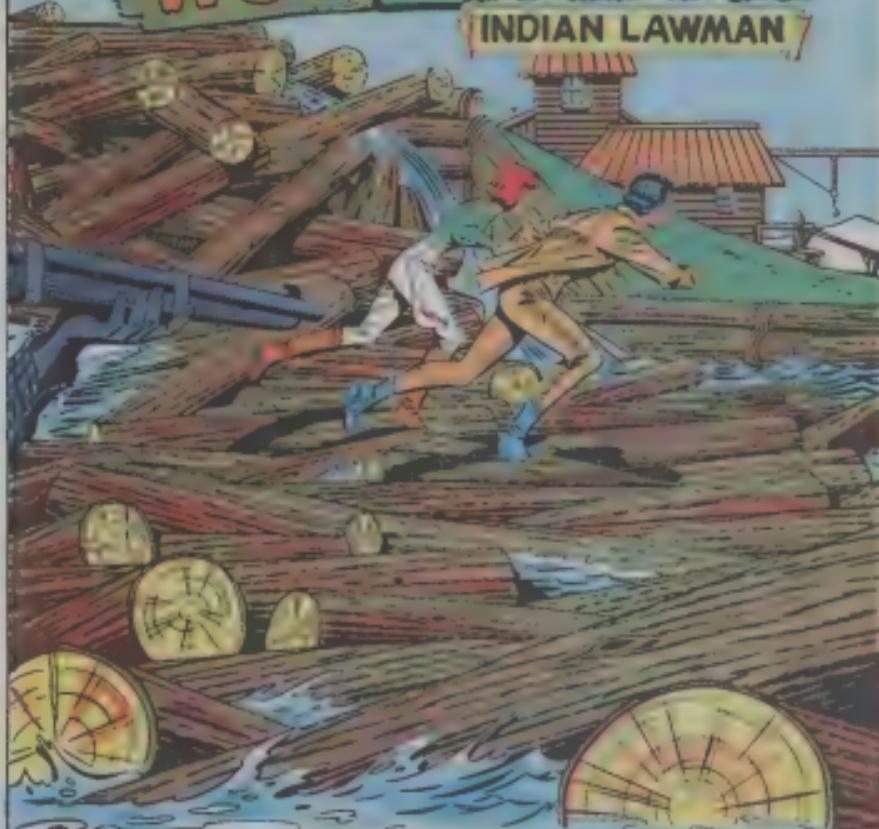
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POW-WOW SMITH

INDIAN LAWMAN



FROM FACTORIES, FARMS AND HOSPITALS THEY COME -- COLLEGE GRADS BACK FOR REUNION! AND ONE COMES FROM FARAWAY RED DEER VALLEY THE STALWART SIOUX WARRIOR KNOWN TO THE PALEFACES AS DETECTIVE POW-WOW SMITH! AND BEHIND THE FACADE OF CAMPUS MERRYMAKING NONE CAN GUESS THAT A SINISTER MYSTERY LURKS -- THE MYSTERY OF ...

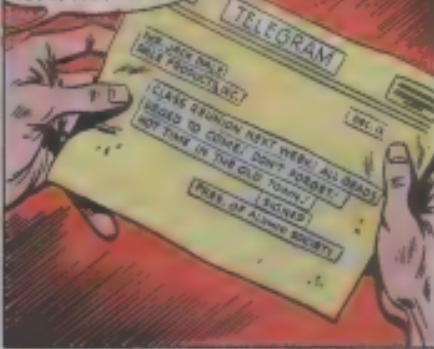
"DEATH IN THE NORTHWOODS!"

DEEP IN THE BUSINESS DISTRICT OF A GREAT CITY A MAN IN A PINE-PaneLED ROOM RECEIVES A TELEGRAM...

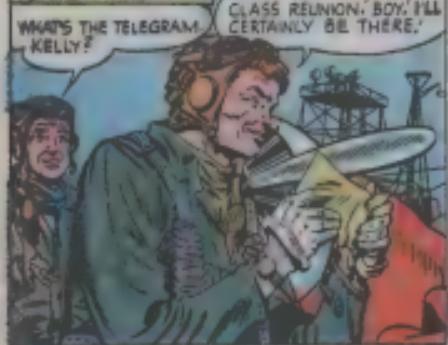


ONE MOMENT, GENTLEMEN...

WE'LL HAVE TO RUSH THINGS, GENTLEMEN! I'LL BE LEAVING TOWN NEXT WEEK!



AND AT A DISTANT AIRPORT, A TEST PILOT PAUSES BEFORE A TAKE-OFF...



CLASS REUNION, BOY! I'LL CERTAINLY BE THERE!

WHAT'S THE TELEGRAM, KELLY?

SIMILAR TELEGRAMS FIND THEIR WAY INTO HOSPITALS--TO FARMS...

MY VACATION COMES AT THE RIGHT TIME--MY CLASS IS HAVING A REUNION!



HOW CAN YOU KEEP 'EM DOWN ON THE FARM WITH A REUNION COMING UP? HA, HA!



AND AWAY FROM ALL THIS--AWAY FROM HOSPITALS AND CONFERENCE ROOMS AND AIRPORTS, IN RED DEER VALLEY WHERE LIVES THE SIOUX...



HERE SINGS SHEOKOKA, THE ROBIN, HERE PROWL CRAFTY SHUNKTOKECHA, THE WOLF--AND HERE THE GREAT GRIZZLY FEASTS LAZILY IN A PATCH OF TEESPINNIA (WILD TURNIPS)...





AND ELSEWHERE IN THE VALLEY, BRAVES FLING FRAGILE CRAFTS OVER THE DANGEROUS RAPIDS OF ROARING RIVER IN AN EXCITING CANOE RACE!



AND OHIYESA (THE WINNER)--KNOWN AS POW-MOW SMITH WHEN HE TAKES UP HIS DETECTIVE DUTIES--EMERGES VICTORIOUS!

YAH! YAH! OHIYESA WINS.



BUT HERE, TOO, IN THIS REMOTE PLACE A TELEGRAM ARRIVES...

A MESSAGE FOR YOU, MY SON--FROM THE BIG KNIVES (PALE FACES)... A RUNNER BROUGHT IT!

I WILL BE TAKING LEAVE, FATHER--TO SEE ONCE MORE MY FRIENDS OF COLLEGE DAYS!



THAT NIGHT, POW-MOW LEAVES RED DEER VALLEY CROSSES INTO BIG KNIFE COUNTRY, AND ENTERS A FOREST RANGER CAMP...

WE WILL SEE OUR FRIENDS POW-MOW! IMAGINE IT--A CLASS REUNION--WE CAN'T MISS IT!



THEN, TWO DAYS LATER, AFTER A LONG TRIP EASTWARD...

HEY, POW-MOW! WHAT'S THE TIME YOU SCORED FOUR TOUCHDOWNS AND WE BEAT EAST TECH?

I'D LIKE TO HEAR ABOUT THAT VALLEY YOU LIVE IN.



BUT AMID THE MERRY-MAKING, POW-MOW'S KEEN EYES DETECT A DISCONSOLATE FIGURE DRIFTING FROM THE CROWD...

SHOULD AULD ACQUAINTANCE BE FORGOT...

KYLE DELANEY, WHAT'S THE MATTER WITH HIM? HE DOESN'T JOIN IN THE FUN...



CONFUD IT! I CAN'T GET
MY MIND OFF SIS -- AND
THOSE CROOKS! THEY'VE
GOT SIS AND ME RIGHT
WHERE THEY WANT US--AND
I CAN'T FIGHT BACK!
SOME REUNION--HA...



LATER THAT NIGHT, AROUND A CRACKLING BONFIRE,
OLD STORIES ARE TOLD AND RETOLD, CLASS
SONGS ARE SUNG OVER AND OVER AGAIN...



BUT ONE FIGURE SITS ALONE BY THE CAMPUS LAKE--
AND ANOTHER, MOVING AS SILENTLY AS SHUNK--
TOKECHA--PAUSES IN THE SHADOWS TO WATCH...



MY FRIEND'S FACE IS
LIKE THE FOREST
SIGNS -- IT TELLS ME
MUCH! HE STAYS
AWAY FROM THE FUN
BECAUSE THERE IS NO
FUN FOR HIM! WHY?

THE FIGURE BY THE LAKE READS AND RE-READS
A MESSAGE ON A PIECE OF PAPER, CRUMPLES
IT AND THROWS IT INTO THE WATER ... THEN
MOVES AWAY...



I CAN TELL THEM SIS
IS SICK ... THAT'S IT!
THEY WON'T SUSPECT
ANYTHING ... THEN I
GO HOME! ... I MUST
GO BACK... I SHOULDN'T
EVEN HAVE LEFT HER...

ABRUPTLY...

NEVER WOULD I SPY ON A
FRIEND TO LEARN HIS
PERSONAL SECRETS -- BUT
KYLE WALKS IN TROUBLE,
AND I WISH TO HELP HIM!
PERHAPS THIS PAPER
WILL TELL ME MORE...



BETH--KYLE'S SISTER! I MET HER AT
GRADUATION! HMM... I WONDER WHO
"THEY" ARE...? I MUST FIND SOME WAY TO
RETURN WITH KYLE -- WITHOUT HIM LEARNING
I KNOW THIS MUCH...



ON THE FOLLOWING DAY...

THEY TELL ME YOUR SISTER IS SICK, KYLE -- AND THAT YOU ARE GOING HOME! YOU HAVE INVITED ME TO YOUR PLACE MANY TIMES... PERHAPS NOW...

GOSH, POW-WOW! NOT THIS TIME -- UH-- MAYBE LATER...



I HAVE NEVER BEEN TO THE NORTH WOODS...

I CAN'T SAY NO! HE'LL THINK I DON'T WANT HIM!

FINE, POW-WOW! WE'LL BE DELIGHTED TO HAVE YOU!



NEXT DAY, ON A NORTHBOUND PLANE

NOT ONE WORD HAS HE SAID! TROUBLE CHURNS DEERIN HIM...



THEY REACH THE FARDEST POINT OF THE PLANE'S ROUTE, THEN PROCEED BY HORSE-BACK THROUGH THE MAJESTIC SCENERY...

YOUR LUMBER 'CUT FROM YOUR WOODS AND FLOATED DOWNSTREAM! WONDERFUL, KYLE!

HUM? YES -- SURE! WE SHOOT IT DOWN TO THE PULP MILLS...



LOOK -- A LOG JAM! BUT THE MEN WILL HAVE HER CLEARED IN A MOMENT! WATCH!



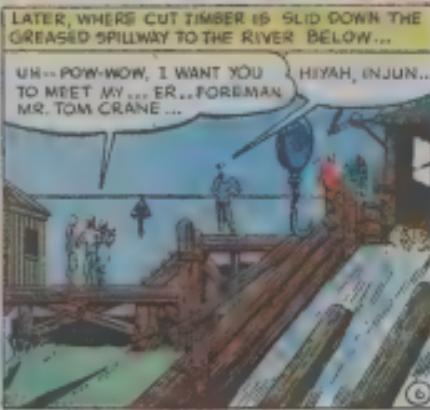
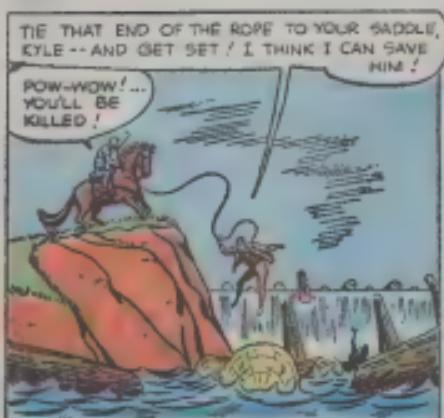
SUDDENLY, THE JAM IS CLEARED, THE HEAVY TIMBER BREAKS LOOSE, AND...

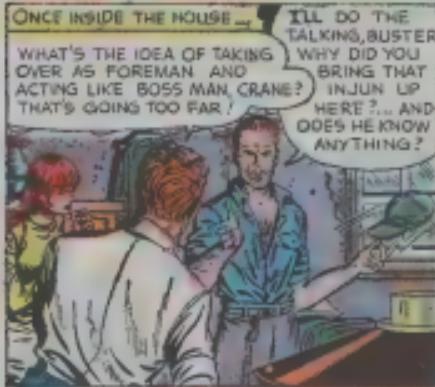
THAT MAN WILL BE TRAPPED! WE'VE GOT TO DO SOMETHING!

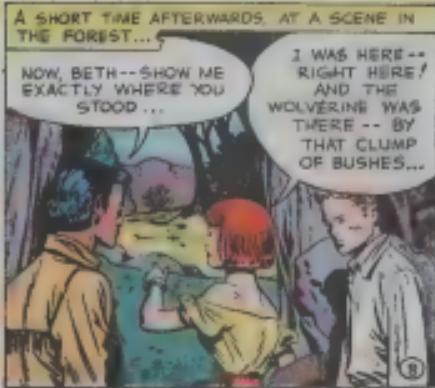
IT'S QUICKEST TO GO OUT THERE NOW!

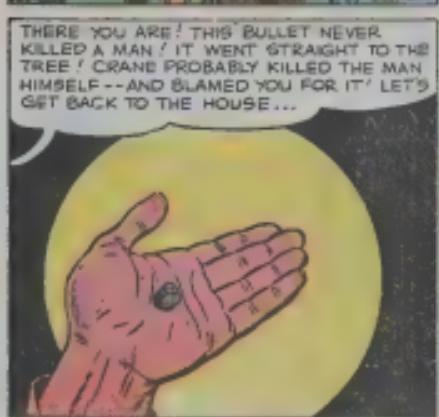


DETECTIVE COMICS









THE EVIL LAUGHTER IS INTERRUPTED BY A SPEEDING ARROW!

UH?...

THE HOLIDAY IS OVER, CRANE!

AND DON'T EITHER OF YOU TWO MAKE A MOVE...

WHAT IS THE WARNING CRY WHEN THE BIG TREES FALL, KYLE?..? TIMBER-R-R!

LOOK! I'LL SING IF IT'LL GET ME TIME OFF! CRANE KILLED THE GUY HE DID IT! WE DIDN'T!

SHUT UP, DUMMY!

AS FOR US, WE'VE STILL GOT A REUNION TO ATTEND! WHAT SAY?

WONDERFUL! WE'LL LEAVE AS SOON AS I GET DRESSED! KYLE -- THIS IS MARVELOUS!

AND TWO DAYS LATER, AT THE COLLEGE...

THAT POW-WOW--HE'S AS GOOD A DANCER AS HE THINKS SO, TOO! IS A DETECTIVE?

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The End

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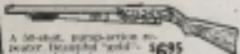
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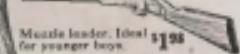
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